

Girls have hair gadget all wrapped up

By DENISE PIPER

Two Whangarei Girls' High School students have their heads on straight when it comes to business.

Laura-Marie Casey, 16, and Briar Fabian, 17, have created their own business called Wrap and Gap as part of the Lion Foundation Young Enterprise Scheme.

Wrap and Gap produces a heat-proof mat and case for hair straighteners and curlers, providing a safe place to rest them while heating up and allowing them to be wrapped up while still hot.

Laura and Briar came up with the idea because they both use hair straighteners and found a need for the product.

So far the girls are doing well in the Northland Young Enterprise Scheme. They won \$150 for their business bank account by placing second with their business plan at the Northland Mid-Year Celebration and they recently came third at the Northland

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Head of commerce Janet Lang

Trade Fair in Kerikeri.

Briar says developing the product has involved a lot of material testing but the final one they settled on offered good heat-proofing and was the least expensive.

But the high school has seen a dramatic drop in the number of students taking enterprise, with just Wrap and Gap in year 12 and one business in year 13.

Head of commerce Janet Lang believes the numbers reflect university entry requirements. But she is pleased that from next year, enterprise will be an approved UE subject for busi-

ness studies students.

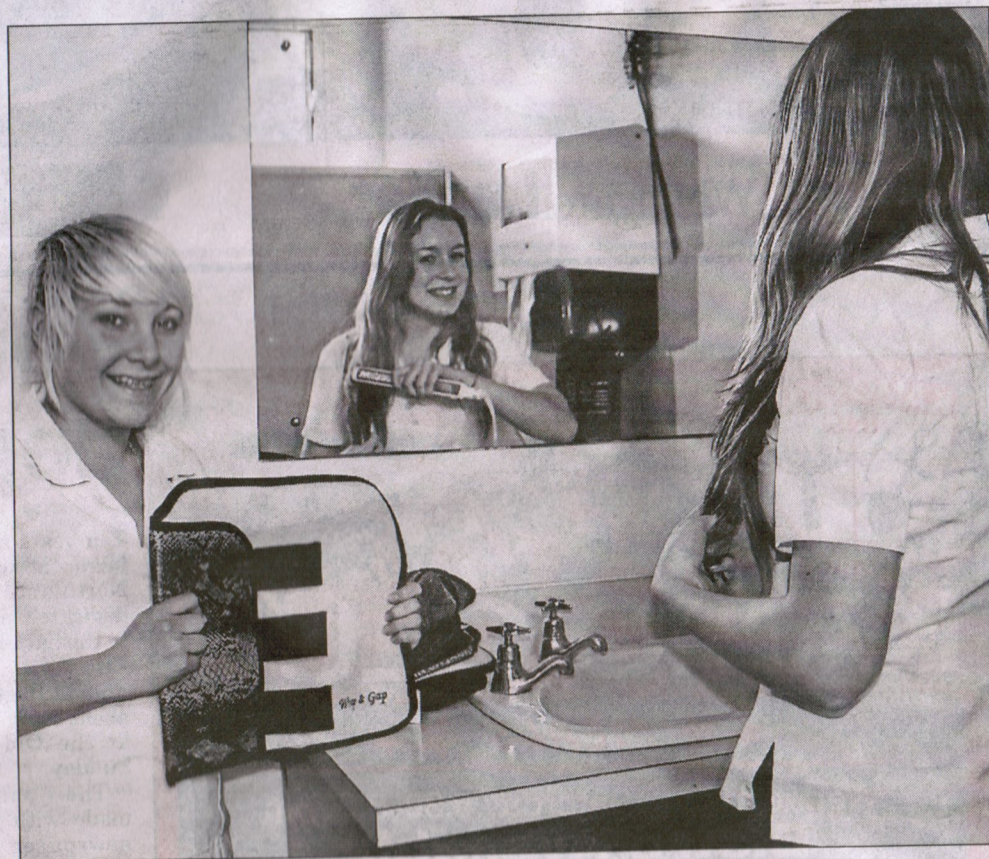
It teaches problem solving, negotiating, working with others in decision-making, creativity, innovation and language skills.

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Laura and Briar say they have gained confidence meeting people and learnt sales techniques, how to write a business plan and how to control finances.

Wrap and Gap is available for sale for \$30 from the school, on TradeMe or direct from Laura and Briar. Email wrapandgap@yesnorthland.co.nz for details.

Business wrap: Briar Fabian, left, and Laura-Marie Casey demonstrate how the Wrap and Gap is a heat-proof mat for hair straighteners which allows them to be wrapped up while still hot.



IN BRIEF

Good chips

A Whangarei fish and chip shop has been highly commended in this year's 2011 Best Chip Shop Competition. Adriatic Fisheries on Kamo Rd didn't make the finalist list of 18 nationwide but got the attention of the judges nonetheless. As regional finalists, the